Nearly half of Goa’s mines illegal: PAC

State has lost ₹3,000 crore since ’05

Ketaki Ghoge and Snehal Rebbelo

PANAJI: Less than a month after the first arrest in the country’s biggest mining scam in Karnataka’s Bellary, the lid is about to be blown off the illegal mining that has cost Goa — the state that exports 40% of India’s iron ore — thousands of crores, Hindustan Times has learnt.

The man who heads the state legislature-appointed public accounts committee (PAC), which is investigating the matter, told Hindustan Times that nearly half the active iron ore mines in Goa are illegal and have caused the state exchequer a loss of at least ₹3,000 crore since 2005.

The panel is scheduled to submit its report in the first week of October.

PAC chairman, Manohar Parrikar, told HT: “In Goa, there have been multiple methods of illegal mining. The first kind is the blatant illegality, in which no royalty has been paid to the state. In the past six years, 15 million tonnes of iron ore worth ₹3,000 crore has been extracted in excess and exported.”

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

GOA CM FACES FLAK FOR ILLEGAL MINING, P1

MONEY-SPINNER

7 of the 12 iron ore mining regions, but iron ore is mined the most in Bicholim, Sattari, Sanguem and Quepem. ₹3,000 crore has been extracted in excess and exported.
Goa’s mining shame

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The sum is calculated on the basis of the 2005 value of iron ore, which was US$50 ($3,425) per tonne. Now it costs US$180 ($11,730) per tonne, leading activists to believe that the loss could actually be in the region of ₹10,000 crore.

Illegal mining in Goa, as in Karnataka, took off in 2005 when China started to buy even low-grade ore (below 52% iron content), leading to a huge revival of old Portuguese mining concessions into leases, all operated by private firms. Good ore has at least 60% iron content.

In 2005, Goa exported 26.33 million tonnes of iron ore. In 2011, exports have nearly doubled to 46.84 million tonnes.

“Every one, from lower officials to ministers in the government, is involved in this scam. Illegal mining in Goa is almost as massive in scale as that in Karnataka, given that Goa is a much smaller state,” said Parrikar.

Karnataka is 52 times larger than Goa. The losses suffered by Karnataka were ₹16,000 crore. Criminal investigative agencies, he said, will have to examine money trails to book individuals.

Sources in government who chose to not be named because they are not authorised to speak to the media said other illegalities include mining without environment and forest clearances, extracting of excess ore from dumps and diversion of forest land for mining.

Mining firms separate high-grade iron ore and reject the rest that is heaped in dumps both within and outside the mining area. Companies in Goa are sifting through these dumps to pick iron ore that didn’t make the cut earlier. China is ready to buy ore that used to be dumped earlier.

In the past 12 months alone, 48 mines have sifted through their ore dumps and extracted 1.4 million tonnes more than they had permission for. To sift through dumps and mine that ore, companies need a separate environment clearance. Sources said many of these companies do not have that.

Anti-mining activists have challenged the companies’ figures on the ore extracted from the dumps. They allege that the mining is from fresh pits, causing more environment damage.

“Neither Department of Mines or the Indian Bureau of Mines carries out independent checks. So there is no way of knowing whether this excess mining is from earlier rejects or fresh mining,” said Claude Alvares, director Goa Foundation, non-government organisation that has been fighting against the mining lobby. Goa Foundation had in 2010 filed a petition against 48 mining firms for excess extraction that had led to the companies being served show cause notices.
Natarajan to keep thick forests out of bounds for coal mining

SUDHEER PAL SINGH
& PIYALI MANDAL
New Delhi, 21 September

In a last ditch attempt at saving its no-go policy that bars coal mining on ecological grounds, the environment ministry is now insisting on keeping highly dense coal-bearing forest areas absolutely free from mining activities.

The ministry's proposal to save these "inviolate" areas, if approved, would still allow it to save a sizeable chunk of forest cover. Extremely dense forest areas cover 10 per cent of India's coal-bearing area of 17,300 square kilometres as against an overall 17.5 per cent area being impacted by no-go.

Environment minister Jayanthi Natarajan had proposed keeping certain areas out of bounds for mining activities during Tuesday's meeting of a 12-member Group of Ministers (GoM).

Natarajan is understood to have said during the meeting that no mining should be allowed in thick forests.

Notably, in another GoM meeting last month, Natarajan had said No-Go policy has no legal basis and should not be considered for future project approvals.

Most of the members present at the GoM endorsed Natarajan's proposal. "The environment ministry is yet to decide on the procedure it will follow to identify the inviolate areas. The proposal is still at preliminary stages," said a senior official who did not wish to be quoted.

**NO-GO FACTS**

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<td>Total coal bearing area in India (sq km)</td>
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<td>Total geological coal reserves (BT)</td>
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<td>Coal bearing area out of total forest area (%)</td>
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<td>Total no of coal blocks in India</td>
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<td>Equivalent power generation capacity (Mw)</td>
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Mines ministry to fast-track mineral concessions

The mines ministry has drawn up plans to tighten state-level governance machinery for eradicating delays in grant of mineral concessions — the reason why miners are drawn towards illegal mining practices. It includes setting up state empowered committees and district level task forces to monitor concession system, giving more powers to state mining directorates and faster environment clearances. It was finalised at a meeting of the Central Coordination-cum-Empowered Committee of the mines ministry chaired by mining secretary Vijay Kumar.

BS REPORTER
MoEF on Karnataka mining projects

Ministry of environment and forests (MoEF) on Wednesday said it would not give further clearance to mining projects in Bellary, Tumkur and Chitradurga districts in Karnataka, till the Supreme Court lifts ban on mining in those regions.

The move will be a major blow to project proponents awaiting green nod from MoEF.
India lobbying hard to get Oz to lift ban on uranium sale

SANDHYA SHARMA
NEW DELHI

With New Delhi lobbying hard to persuade Australia to remove its ban on sale of uranium to India, the recently held Australia-India Roundtable in Sydney, an initiative of the External Affairs Ministry's public diplomacy division, agreed that the embargo was indeed an obstacle in stronger strategic relations. And New Delhi maintained that the sale of uranium would add a "new trust" to the relationship between the two countries.

Australia has time and again rejected New Delhi's request for uranium since India is non-signatory to NPT, which indeed is seen by the latter as a stumbling block for its growing energy requirement.

India has been vying for energy resources from Australia as it is making a strategic shift over a period of time from moving from fossil fuels to greater use of renewable use of natural resources which includes Nuclear energy. Coal imports also form a large part of this. Former Indian Foreign Secretary Shyam Saran argued that there was no reason why Australia should not sell uranium to India since it has supported New Delhi's exemption at NSG.

"India is not a member of the NPT, but India has an impeccable record as far as non-proliferation is concerned; why should that not apply to the sale of uranium?" he wondered.

"Energy security will be central to the bilateral trade and investment relationship. Recent growth in mining investment in both directions, such as major Indian coal mining and infrastructure investments in Australia, is a positive sign," stated the Australia-India outcome statement.

New Delhi described sale of uranium to India as a "legacy issue" and emphasised that agreement to sell uranium would add new trust to relations. "There is a view in Australia that sale of uranium to India is a policy matter and this change is probably a matter of time," Rory Medcalf, Programme director-international security at the Lowy institute and a former Australian diplomat to India, told The Pioneer.

The Julia Gillard Government needs to see how to improve its strategic relationship with Washington and New Delhi in the wake of increased Chinese footprints. In December 2011, when the Labour Party will hold its national forum, it is expected that New Delhi will get a one-off allowance from its leaders for the sale of uranium.
SUSPENSION ORDER FOR 40 MINES IN GOA

AGE CORRESPONDENT
PANAJI, SEPT. 21

The Goa Bench of the Bombay high court was told on Wednesday that the Goa Pollution Control Board had issued suspension orders to a total of 40 mines in the state as they did not have the forest and wildlife department's go-ahead. Of these, 27 mines were in working condition.

Sources said that a few of these mines were run by the Congress politicians. This becomes important as the Justice Shah Commission, which is in Goa at present to probe allegations of illegal mining in the state, has pointed out several irregularities in the state's mines. The mines and geology department would issue notices to eight working mines.
Goa CM faces flak on illegal mining

NAILED CAG report indicts Kamat for being corrupt, partisan and causing loss to exchequer

Ketaki Ghohe and Snehal Rebello

PANAJI: Goa chief minister Digambar Kamat, who has held the mining portfolio in his state since 1999, finds himself swamped by a rising tide of criticism from anti-mining activists and Congress colleagues.

The Public Accounts Committee of the state legislature was asked to probe illegal mining last year following consistent demands from the Opposition and a Comptroller and Auditor General report that mentioned how the state lost revenue because of the way mining was being handled by the state administration.

"I have seen his (Kamat’s) signature on every mining file, accessed through the Right to Information Act," said Claude Alvares, director of the Goa Foundation.

Kamat was with the Congress till 1994. He then switched to the BJP, and stayed with the party till 2005. He then returned to the Congress.

The chief minister said the allegations were baseless. "In my entire tenure, I have not cleared a single new mining lease. Mining leases are regulated by eight to ten agencies," said Kamat.

But it’s not merely civil society. Some of Kamat’s party colleagues are blaming him. "The current situation in Goa is such that probably only a handful of mines are legal. Someone in government is guilty. How can the head of the government not accept that responsibility?" asked Dayanand Narvekar, former Goa finance minister and Congress MLA.

Sources in the government said Kamat faced criticism on two counts: First, for having allegedly not offered a level playing field and having favoured certain mine owners while extending the deadline for renewing licences that had lapsed.

Kamat refuted the charge. "There is a provision in the law that allows for it. It is not illegal."

The second criticism of the chief minister is that he has allowed mining leases to be worked by contractors — persons other than original lesseeholders.

Kamat said: "The person who holds the mining lease often hires someone else to help out with and monitor operations."

In my entire tenure, I have not cleared a single new mining lease. Mining leases are regulated by eight to ten agencies.

DIGAMBAR KAMAT
Goa chief minister
Mercator buys 50% in Indonesian mine

New Delhi: Mercator Lines has acquired a 50% stake in a coal mine in Indonesia’s Kalimantan province for about $50 million ($11.4 billion today), a top company official said on Wednesday.

India’s second largest private sector shipping company Mercator Lines also said it plans to list its coal division in London in one year.

“We have acquired 50% stake in a mine in Indonesia’s coal Kalimantan, which has reserves of 60 million tonnes (mt),” Mercator Lines managing director Atul Agarwal said.

The company is looking at a production of 3 mt coal in a year which it will sell, Agarwal said.
चीन को मुंहतोड़ जवाब

वित्तनाम के साथ बढ़ती नजदीकी को समुद्र क्षेत्र में चीन के दबदबे पर अंकुश लगाने का कारगर उपयोग रहे हैं नए वित्त

Dainik Jagran, Delhi
Thursday, 22nd September 2011, Page: 8

Width: 24.05 cms Height: 19.43 cms, Ref: pmin.2011-09-22.55.40
‘नौ गो’ पॉलिसी पर मंत्रालय नरम

नेशनल भजन | गायक दिलीप

पर्यावरण मंत्रालय ने पॉलिसी जोश के नेता अमित ने ‘नौ गो’ पॉलिसी पर नरम रखने का अनुरोध किया है। सुधीर के मुताबिक मंत्रालय ने जोश बंधन पर अनुमोदन दिया है। पॉलिसी जोश के नेता अमित ने दिया कि जोश के नेता अमित ने ‘नौ गो’ पॉलिसी पर नरम रखने का अनुरोध किया है। सुधीर के मुताबिक मंत्रालय ने जोश बंधन पर अनुमोदन दिया है। पॉलिसी जोश के नेता अमित ने दिया कि जोश के नेता अमित ने ‘नौ गो’ पॉलिसी पर नरम रखने का अनुरोध किया है। सुधीर के मुताबिक मंत्रालय ने जोश बंधन पर अनुमोदन दिया है।
रेड्डी और सहयोगियों के बैंक में 200 लॉकर : सीबीआई

बेलूर, 11: अर्जुन रेड्डी के अनुसार, उन्होंने बैंक में बंद कराए हुए भुगतानों के साथ विश्वास ही जताति। रेड्डी ने सीबीआई के संवाददाता के साथ विवादास्पद मुद्दों का कर्तव्य अंतिम किया।

सीबीआई के संवाददाता ने दावा किया कि उन्होंने रेड्डी के 350 लॉकरों का जायजा किया है। रेड्डी के अनुसार, उन्होंने बैंक में भुगतान किया है और उन्होंने एक निजी बैंक में 200 लॉकर भी दिया है।

रेड्डी ने दावा किया कि उन्होंने बैंक में 200 लॉकर भी दिए हैं। रेड्डी ने दावा किया कि उन्होंने बैंक में भुगतान किया है और उन्होंने एक निजी बैंक में भी 200 लॉकर भी दिए हैं।
अवैध खानन के लिए ऑनलाइन निगरानी प्रणाली

नई दिल्ली। अवैध खानन पर अड़चन लगाने के लिए सरकार विसंबर से एक ऑनलाइन निगरानी प्रणाली शुरू करेगी जिसके तहत देश में खानिया संबंधी राम्बी लेन-देन का परीक्षण अवैधताव्रों होगा। मीरालाल है कि पिछले कुछ सालों में कई राज्यों में अवैध खानन द्वारा बच्चों के लिए जन्म देती जा रही है। इस राज्य बालिका को मार्ग के साथ स्वतंत्र महानी के दौरान ही अवैध खानन के 24,405 मामले रजिस्टर किए गए।
कोयले के लिए लगाना होगा चार गुना जंगल

खाने के लिए कटोरा सार्ट

फिर उन्हें राजन सरकार को सील देनी है। इसके अलावा भी, जीवितार्क में तन सरकार के लिए बड़े मैदान से एक गुना जंगल लगाना होगा। इसके लिए राजन सरकार को सील देनी है। इसके लिए राजन सरकार को सील देनी है। इसके लिए राजन सरकार को सील देनी है। इसके लिए राजन सरकार को सील देनी है।
गैरकानूनी खानन पर लगाम लगाने की तैयारी, दिसंबर से पंजीकरण कराना जरूरी होगा।

हाई दिल्ली, 21 सितंबर (अम्बाद)। तेजी से बढ़ रहे गैरकानूनी खानन पर लगाम लगाने के लिए सरकार दिसंबर तक देश में समस्त खानन संबंधी कारोबार के अनिवार्य पंजीकरण के लिए आधारानुसार प्रणाली शुरू कर देगी। पिछले दो साल में विभिन्न राज्यों में गैरकानूनी खानन में बहुत तेज बढ़ोतरी हुई है। इस साल जनवरी से मार्च के दौरान गैरकानूनी खानन के करीब 24405 मास्केट दर्ज हुए हैं जो पूरी 2010 के दिन में 84006 राज्य का 30 प्रतिशत है। खानन संबंधी एक विवाद कमांड ने कहा कि इम सभी तरह के खानन कारोबारों के लिए इस साल के अंत तक एक लेना प्रणाली पेश कर रहे हैं जिसमें खानन, बिक्री, परिवहन और निर्यात जैसे मामले शामिल होंगे।

खानन नियंत्रण और गैरकानूनी खानन पर नियंत्रण के लिए हुए वर्षों के दौरान एक नया राज्य सरकार के अधिकारियों को बेडिंग का आवश्यकता करते हुए खानन संबंधी ने कहा कि आधारानुसार प्रणाली के तहत लौह अवश्य, बुना और बाक्सर्ट जैसे प्रमुख खाननों का खानन करने वालों के लिए दिनांकित, निर्यातकों और निर्यातकों के लिए पंजीकरण करना अनिवार्य होगा। यह पंजीकरण एक संशोधन के जरिए खानन संरक्षण विकास निमं (एप्सीडीआर) के तहत किया जाएगा। फिलहाल राज्यों में होंगे। रहे गैरकानूनी खानन में केंद्रीय हस्तक्षेप का पर्याय कानूनी प्रवर्तन नहीं है। लेकिन समस्या इतनी बढ़ गई है कि 2010 में 82330 मास्केट दर्ज हुए जो 2009 में दर्ज 41578 मास्केट का बढ़ा है।

केंद्रीय संयुक्त व अधिकार ग्रान रहमित ने अपनी बैठक में आज कांस्य किया गया कि सरकार इस गलतिविधि पर लगाम लगाने के लिए उपचार चिंत्र का उपयोग करेगी।

राज्यों से कहा गया है कि वह अधिकार ग्रान रहमित और ग्रान संस्थान कार्यालय के जरिए और राज्यों संयुक्त ग्रानों की सहमा के लिए इस जैसी खानन पर लगाम लगाएंगे।
No unrestricted mining in dense forests, says environment & forests ministry

New Delhi, Sept 21: The ministry of environment and forests (MoEF) may have agreed with the discontinuing of `go/no-go' classification for coal mining areas but is in no mood to allow unrestricted mining in dense forests. The ministry has now decided that some forest areas, a very small portion of the overall coal-bearing region, will be considered `inviolate' where no mining can be permitted. These areas will be considered fragile from the environmental aspect as well as from the point of view of protection of tribal populations. These `inviolate' areas will include national parks, tiger reserves, and wildlife sanctuaries and areas endowed with dense forest cover or rich biodiversity.

At the Group of Ministers meeting on Tuesday, the ministry has agreed to give forest clearance on a case-to-case basis for projects of national importance. This means that these areas won't be strictly `No-go' zones. This will remove uncertainty over many projects for which the clearance process would now be duly followed.

The MoEF has also suggested that biodiversity indexing be done for these areas where species of animals, insects, herbs, shrubs and reptiles which need to be preserved besides the forest cover.
Ministry set to delist pending Karnataka mining projects

Fe Burea

New Delhi, Sept 21: In yet another setback to mining operations in Karnataka, the ministry of environment and forests (MoEF) on Wednesday decided to delist all the mining projects in the state which are pending for environment clearance and are at different stages of processing.

The diktat came after the Supreme Court banned iron ore mining in Bellary, Tumkur and Chitradurga districts of Karnataka last month after it found rampant illegal mining happening in the state.

“It has been decided that all the mining projects which are pending for environment clearance and are at different stages of processing/consideration, both in the ministry and the state environment impact assessment authority will be delisted,” the MoEF said in an order.

The order further added: “Those projects which have not yet been placed before the Expert Appraisal Committee/State Expert Appraisal Committee, will be returned.”

Moreover, the ministry has also decided that it will not consider any mining proposal from these three districts till the ban is lifted. There are 11 mining projects awaiting environment clearance in the state.

At present, the CBI is probing the alleged illegal mining and irregularities in allotment of mining leases to Obulapuram Mining Company (OMC) and has arrested mining baron Janardhana Reddy and OMC Managing Director Srinivas Reddy.

“Accordingly, the prospective project proponents are advised not to submit any mining proposal for environment clearance till such time the ban is lifted,” the order said.
Panel meets on mining

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Central coordination-cum-empowered committee on Tuesday took several decisions on mining and reviewed the position of mineral concession regime in the country.

The meeting decided to prepare an action plan to increase the capacity of State Mining Directorates, start end-to-end accounting system for mineral transactions to prevent and detect illegal mining through an All India online system and ensure proper exploration in leasehold areas in a time-bound manner.

An official release said the committee took decisions to bring efficiency and transparency in the system.

Issues discussed are action taken to curb illegal mining, including use of satellite imagery, improving monitoring of the mineral system through a State-empowered committee and district level task forces, plugging loopholes in the royalty collection system, strengthening governance by gearing up the State Mining Directorates and expediting approval including forest clearance cases to clear long-pending mineral concession applications.
Brahmani Steels a fake firm: CBI

Land allotted for factory and airport mortgaged with banks to raise funds, says probe agency

HYDERABAD: The CBI investigations have unravelled the mystery behind the numerous benami companies in India and abroad floated by Janardhana Reddy as conduits to fund Brahmani Steels with a whopping project cost of Rs 20,000 crore.

Seeking his custody for nine more days, the CBI said Reddy’s associates had sold iron ore for a pittance to their overseas benami companies which resold it for higher stakes and the extra revenue was routed back as investment in Brahmani Steels.

“We need to know how much ore was mined and sold to whom? Who are the officials who supported them in giving transport permits, etc.?” the CBI counsel and deputy legal adviser B Ravindranath and public prosecutor TV Ramana said.

Describing the Obulapuram Mining Company (OMC) scam as the biggest scandal in the abuse of natural resources, the CBI counsel told the court that several senior Andhra Pradesh officials had supported the illegal activities of the mining baron in transportation, false accounting and mining.

It appears that former additional director general of the mining department, R Lings Reddy, and four other officials had openly colluded with the lease of the Antargangamma Konda mines.

“Officials gave permits for the mines and the ore was excavated elsewhere and shown as that extracted from this mine,” the counsels said.

As many as eight of his supporters who had colluded with him in the illegal activities had vanished into thin air now. CBI now plans to question Reddy’s wife Lakshmi Aruna about her lockers and involvement with benami companies.

Meanwhile, the CBI says it has proof that the entire Brahmani Steels was a fictitious steel plant aided by former Andhra Pradesh chief minister YS Rajasekhara Reddy (YSR).

“The plant never took shape, but both Reddy and YSR had colluded in granting the mines, land for factory and airport, which were mortgaged with banks to raise funds for mining activity and permission was granted to export iron ore violating all forest regulations,” the CBI said.

Reddy was allotted 10,760 acres of government land by the YSR government in 2007 for setting up a Rs 20,000-crore captive steel plant.

Named Brahmani Steels, the plant at Jammalamadugu in Andhra Pradesh’s Kadapa district was inaugurated with much fanfare with YSR arriving in a chopper.

Also in attendance were the chief minister’s son Jagannath Venkatesh Reddy and several of his cabinet colleagues. The largesse by the YSR government did not end there. It gave another 4,000 acres of land to Reddy for developing an airport with the promise of generating 10,000 direct jobs and one lakh indirect jobs via the two projects.

“We will also make a big airport here. Like Hyderabad, Chennai and Bangalore, airport will land right here,” Reddy had proclaimed that day.

Four years on, there’s no sign yet of the steel plant. Reddy, however, managed to raise Rs 350 crore by using the land that he had procured for just Rs 18 crore from the YSR government.

He also reportedly exported 54 lakh tonnes of iron ore that was meant to be used by the steel plant.

The State government has now distanced itself from the matter, terming it a decision by YSR. “The decision on allotment of iron ore, that is captive mining, to OMC, Anantapur Mining Company and four other companies was taken by YSR, not the Cabinet. For the concessions to Brahmani Industries, the Cabinet is collectively responsible,” state minister D L Ravindra Reddy has said.

The Opposition, meanwhile, attacked the government for helping the mining magnate manipulate the process. “While finalising the contract, they eliminated competition in the name of Brahmani captive unit. Later, they issued a government order to sell iron ore anywhere as they like,” former chief minister and Telugu Desam Party president N Chandrababu Naidu said.

Jagan, who broke away from the Congress last year to form his own party after YSR’s death, is already under the scanner for his links with the Reddys — more precisely getting a stake in Brahmani Steels in return for his father’s favours.

DH News Service
जिस्म माफिया की पौराणिकता

● हानिवाला में बेच काट लेते हैं यादी
● अब तक 604 टन जांबा

शुभ तंक
सुरज का अभियान

राजस्थान-भानीपुरा अपूर्व परिवहन के लिए बन गया अनुपूर्ण राष्ट्र

राजस्थान प्रियक जा पौराणिकता

पुलिस ने सस्त्रनारायण के भानीपुरा व तारामंडल के अपूर्व परिवहन के लिए 604 टन जांबा सूचीबद्ध किया। अब तक 28 गांव में चालान किया जा रहा है। पुलिस का आरोप समूहों के नेटवर्क के रूप में स्वच्छ सरकार के प्रशिक्षित पुलिस की होना जानने के लिए इसलिए इसका होना उचित है। सुरज के पुलिस के वहां शहीद तक्षाल के भारतीय सेना में इसलिए आयोजनात हुआ।

604 टन जिस्म जांबा

पुलिस ने सस्त्रनारायण के भानीपुरा व तारामंडल के अपूर्व परिवहन के लिए 604 टन जांबा सूचीबद्ध किया। जांबा का अनुसरण ने पुलिस ने 9 मार्च 2010 में तारामंडल शहीद के अपूर्व परिवहन के लिए 29 टन जांबा सूचीबद्ध की जांबा की कार्रवाई की थी। इसको अभियान रोज या नवम्बर 2010 तक जारी रखा।

28 गांवों में चालान

पुलिस ने पिल्ले एक साल में 28 मामलों चालान कर आदर्श आदर्श का अथवा 604 टन जांबा का अथवा 28 गांव में चालान का कार्रवाई किया। जांबा का अनुसरण ने पुलिस ने 9 मार्च 2010 में तारामंडल शहीद के अपूर्व परिवहन के लिए 29 टन जांबा का अथवा 604 टन जिस्म का अथवा 28 गांव में चालान का कार्रवाई की थी। इसका अभियान रोज या नवम्बर 2010 तक जारी रखा।

क्या है जिस्म?

जिस्म के लिए उपयोगिता उपलब्ध है। इसका उपयोग जांबा के लिए यह भी ध्यान देना चाहिए की कारारोगिया और जांबा की गणना की जा रही है। इसका उपयोग सूची के लिए यह भी ध्यान देना चाहिए की जांबा की गणना की जा रही है।
Every 24 hours a coal miner dies in India, but who cares

DNA, Mumbai
Wednesday, 21st September 2011, Page: 1

Gangabala lost her husband in a coal-mining accident in the Central Sonda colliery, Jharkhand, five years ago.

The 45-year-old woman from Ramgarh district is still to recover from the shock. But Gangabala is not alone. Ever since the government of India nationalised coal industries in 1974, miners have been dying.

More than 370 miners were killed in 1975 when a routine explosion led to the roof giving way inside the Chasnaula colliery near Dhanbad, Jharkhand. The deaths were soon forgotten, but the incident set the cash registers ringing at the box office when Bollywood came up with the Amitabh Bachchan-starring Kaatal Pather based on the disaster. DNA correspondents found, however, that even today, on average, one family loses its breadwinner every 24 hours.

The main reason for such deaths is companies not using safety funds. Coal India Limited (CIL) and its eight subsidiaries, Neyveli Lignite Corporation, Singareni Collieries Corporation Limited, captive block miners, and village-level miners (who have traditionally been involved in mining and are now considered illegal miners) mine coal in the country. Almost 30% of the funds allotted by CIL for safety (which add up to Rs693 crore over the past three years) has remained unused, the standing committee on safety in coal mines said in its report. DNA has a copy of the report.

Officials from the directorate general for mines safety (DGMS) rarely carry out safety inspections, GK Srivastava, a member of the CIL safety board, said.
Every 24 hours a coal miner dies in India, but who cares

From p1
Also, responsibilities are not clearly defined and miners are not properly trained, compounding the problem of lack of safety, Srivastava said.

DNA could not get any comment from Satish Puri, DGMS commissioner, on the matter though correspondents visited his office, sent e-mails and called him several times on telephone.

DNA has a copy of the Union labour ministry’s report on deaths since 1980. The list suggests that 160 miners die every year on average. These “statistical deaths” happen in coal-mining accidents. Then there are “non-statistical deaths” (never recorded officially). At least 60 miners die inside the mines annually, but their names will not be found on any of the official lists.

“Seven to 10 people die in every subsidiary every year because of heart attacks or strokes,” SQ Jana, MLC in Maharashtra and a prominent coal industry union leader, said.

A senior official of Central Coalfields Ltd (CCL) confirmed this. “Such deaths do happen because hospitals at collieries do not conduct proper pre-medical examination (PME) of workers,” he said.

DNA has documents to prove that some miners of WCL are unfit to work underground, but doctors have failed to recognise this. Also, DNA has anecdotal evidence which suggests that contractors engaged by CIL and other mining companies do not report deaths that cannot be attributed to accidents.

When DNA correspondents visited the Ummer mine near Nagpur, an official said two contract workers died on duty in August 2009. But the contractor manipulated the information to say they died in a road accident. Such cases abound in every subsidiary of CIL.

And what about the “illegal miners”, the villagers? There is no data on the casualties. Experts say the number of deaths might run into several hundreds. A senior police officer in Ranchi said a conservative estimate would be nothing less than 150 deaths annually in Jharkhand alone. DNA visited Golaik, Kujana, Surunga basti, and Logpee villages in Dhanbad district, Jharkhand, to find that several illegal miners from these villages had died. Suresh Paswan, a social activist from Dhanbad, said five to six people from each village perish every year.

The apathy of the coal companies as well as the government has left hundreds of families in the lurch as they have lost their breadwinners in mining accidents. It is no wonder that Gangabala is now engaged in the same dangerous occupation that claimed her husband’s life.
'Centre dumps ‘go, no-go’, dubs it illegal'

Mining sector gets a boost. Question is, who takes the blame for losses incurred by industries following Jairam Ramesh’s crusade?

Neeraj Thakur • NEW DELHI

Less than two years after splitting coal mining zones into ‘go and no-go’ – a move that has stalled almost every big-ticket coal mining project in India – the government is scrapping the policy.

The Ministry of Environment and Forest (MoEF), which had framed the policy guidelines along with the Ministry of Coal, on Tuesday accepted that the categorisation of ‘go and no-go’ did not have any legal sanctity.

The move was expected after Jayanti Natarajan was given charge of the MoEF, replacing Jairam Ramesh, whose brainchild the policy was.

“Had this happened in any other country, the government would have been sued left, right and centre for loss in business and opportunity cost, now that there is a mea culpa,” said an analyst who tracks the resources sector with a foreign brokerage. “India has unnecessarily lost two years of crucial productivity gains and also fixed capital formation opportunities.”

In a meeting of group of ministers’, Natarajan acceded to the recommendations of the B K Chaturvedi Committee, which said forest clearances should be based on the Forest Clearance Act instead of a go and no-go policy. The panel had argued that the go-no-go policy had no legal sanctity and projects cannot be cleared or barred based on its guidelines.

According to a source present at the meeting, Natarajan said she was ready to take up projects on a case-to-case basis, and in future no project would be judged on the basis of the policy guidelines drawn by Jairam Ramesh.

The group of ministers was formed in February this year, after the ministries of power, coal and steel came together to protest against the ‘no-go’ policy.

After the classification, around 203 coal blocks with reserves of over 600 million tonne in nine major coalfields had been barred from any mining activity. These included many mines belonging to Coal India Ltd. Corporate majors Essar and Hindalco were barred from mining in the Mahan block for their projects, while KSK Energy could not mine in the Monga II block in the Hasdeo Arand coalfield in Chhattisgarh. Both these blocks are located in densely forested areas and are also among the eight blocks suggested for forest clearance by the committee set up by the Prime Minister’s Office, headed by T K A Nair, principal secretary to the Prime Minister.

According to Planning Commission data, the power sector alone was losing potential production of 143,000 mw of power due to the MoEF policy.

The group of ministers also constituted a committee under Planning Commission member Chaturvedi to resolve the issue of NTPC’s North Karanpura power plant, which falls in a coal-bearing area in Jharkhand.

While the coal ministry has been arguing in favour of relocating the proposed 1980 mw plant, the power ministry has been opposing the move, following which the matter was referred to the ministerial panel earlier this year.

Monsoon sinks Coal India output hopes

Page 9
Hind Copper alters float plan

Shakel Ahmed in Calcutta on Tuesday.

Hind Copper Ltd has put the sale of new equity on the backburner, fearing that the new shares may hurt the price of the scrip on the stock exchanges.

The cabinet has approved the sale of 10 per cent of the government’s stake in the company and the issue of 40 per cent fresh equity through an FPO (follow-on public offer) more than a year ago, but the issue did not hit the market.

The company has now informed the ministry of mines that it does not need to generate cash by way of a stake sale at present.

Hind Copper chairman and managing director Shakel Ahmed said he did not expect the company to raise any money before two years.

“There is a projected shortfall of about Rs 200 crore in our Rs 3,677-crore expansion plan keeping the London Metal Exchange copper price projection in mind. But even if we need to raise this money, the first preference will be external commercial borrowings (ECB),” he said.

The ECB route will be preferable as the company earns in dollar, which provides a natural hedge against currency fluctuation.

The change in the FPO plan followed market feedback that stock prices may be severely hit if the liquidity of the stock goes up substantially in a sudden.

The Centre holds 99.9 per cent in the country’s largest copper producer.

In the past, the NMDC stock had taken a beating after a large number of shares hit the market.

Ahmed said the company hoped to do much better in the second half of this financial year as it was sitting on a pile of inventory.

Hind Copper also expects the cabinet to give its final approval for the company’s biggest mine expansion project at Malmi under within a week.
Nissan Copper fixes date for share consolidation

Nissan Copper has fixed October 3 as the record date for the purpose of ascertaining the eligibility of the shareholders for consolidation of 10 equity shares having face value of ₹1 each into one equity share having face value of ₹10 each.
Uranium Corp, NPCIL to Bid for Assets Abroad

RAKHI MAZUMDAR
KOLKATA

Public sector units Uranium Corporation of India Ltd (UCIL) and Nuclear Power Corp of India Ltd (NPCIL) will jointly bid for overseas uranium reserves, potentially boosting its financial firepower in any bid battle for gaining control of these assets.

The two companies are exploring initial bids for mines in Mongolia, Kazakhstan, Russia and South Africa. India, which needs more power to light homes and run factories, is focusing on cleaner sources of energy. Its nuclear plants produce about 3% of the total power generated in the country, which India aims to raise to 20% by 2030.

“UCIL, and NPCIL will jointly bid for assets. We are keen on securing uranium assets abroad, even as we develop new mines within the country,” UCIL managing director Bivakar Acharya said, adding, “We would like to bring back the ore to the country,” referring to assets in those countries.

While NPCIL will be the majority partner in any such project, UCIL is likely to pick up strategic stake of about 26%. UCIL’s expertise is hard-rock mining while NPCIL operates atomic power stations. The two companies joining hands will enhance the financial muscle of any bid.

The Department of Atomic Energy, the administrative agency for both companies, is framing a policy to facilitate the venture. In the past, policy issues and slow decision-making have stymied efforts by some PSUs to acquire assets abroad.

“As a mining company we can contribute our expertise in hard-rock mining. We have some of the best mining experts and technologists working for us,” Acharya said.

Acharya said factors such as mineable reserves, logistics and the regulatory framework of the host country would also influence choice.

“Globally, uranium prices crashed after the accident at the Fukushima reactor in Japan. A good reserve could be valued anywhere between $500 million and $600 million,” an analyst said.
विदेशी यूरॉपियन्म के लिए UCIL, NPCIL मिलकर लगाएंगी बोली

राष्ट्रीय सेवाओं को प्रदान करने वाली आईआईटी कंपनियों की यह बैठक बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है। इसके लिए UCIL और NPCIL ने एक साथ कार्यरत्न बनकर यह उद्देश्य प्राप्त किया है। इससे देश का अर्थव्यवस्था में विकास हुआ होगा।

विदेशी यूरॉपियन्स की टीम अपने ही यूरॉप में भरोसे हैं कि इन कंपनियों के लिए यह उद्देश्य प्राप्त होगा। इसके लिए उन्होंने अपनी योजनाओं को बनाए रखा है। इसमें उन्होंने अपनी योजनाओं को बनाए रखा है। इसमें उन्होंने अपने ही यूरॉप में भरोसे हैं कि इन कंपनियों के लिए यह उद्देश्य प्राप्त होगा। इसके लिए उन्होंने अपनी योजनाओं को बनाए रखा है।
Tepid Trading Caps Base Metal Turnover

Global economic uncertainties result in narrow-range trading in April-August period

RAM SAHGAL
Mumbai

Low punter interest in the base metals counter has pulled down the turnover of this class of commodities in the financial year through August. Copper, nickel, zinc, aluminium and lead futures on MCX have posted an over 3% fall in turnover during the April-August 2011 period to Rs 10.4 lakh crore from a year ago as most of these commodities have traded in a narrow range over the five months, said brokers.

While some brokers like Geojit Comtrade have advised clients to take limited exposure to base metals till they break out or break down from a narrow range, others like Adani Commodities felt it was better to wait on the sidelines for positive or negative global economic news to result in a shakeout.

“Base metals led by copper have traded in a narrow 6-8% range over the past six months, limiting chances of traders making money by rolling over their positions,” said Viral Shah, senior VP, Geojit Comtrade. “We have recommended clients may trade in the counter in a limited way.”

Suresh Nair, director, Adani Commodities, agreed. “Base metals haven’t moved as much as bullion or crude oil, which attracted trader interest because of the arb (arbitrage) between Brent and Nymex crude. Fears of the world economy slipping into a double-dip recession have been fuelled by weak employment numbers in the US and sovereign debt issues in the 17-member Eurozone. These and China’s checks to curb inflation in its realty sector have impacted base metals demand.”

Both analysts said base metals could move out of the narrow trading range over the next few weeks once clarity emerges on what steps these two regions take to put economic growth back on track and reduce high unemployment. “It remains to be seen if Obama can push the proposed spending cuts through the Congress by taxing the rich and creating jobs by building roads, ports and other infrastructure… if these proposed laws are passed by the US Congress, they could boost the prospects of base metals,” said Nair.

“Base metals like copper, zinc and aluminium are traded on local commodity bourse MCX, which has more than 80% market share in commodities trading among five national exchanges. Traders like volatility as it enables them to make money by frequently entering and exiting counters. Low volatility, as witnessed in base metals in recent months, deters traders from actively taking positions.”

Suresh Shah, director, Adani Commodities
Economic Times, Delhi
Thursday, 22nd September 2011, Page: 3

No Mining Nod in Bellary, Tumkur & Chitradurga Till SC Lifts Ban

OUR POLITICAL BUREAU
NEW DELHI

The environment ministry has decided that it will not consider for clearance any of the pending proposals for mining projects in the Bellary, Tumkur and Chitradurga districts in Karnataka. It will not take up any mining proposal till the Supreme Court lifts the ban in these three districts.

In an order issued on Tuesday, the ministry said that in keeping with the Supreme Court orders of July 29 and August 29, all mining projects which are “pending for environmental clearance and are at different stages of consideration/processing” with the ministry or with the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority will be “delisted”. In August, the Supreme Court extended a ban on iron ore mining in the Bellary district to the districts of Tumkur and Chitradurga after the Central Empowered Committee submitted its report containing prima facie evidence of environmental degradation in these areas. The ban on mining in the Bellary district, the hub of illegal iron mining in the state, had been imposed on July 29.

The ministry had in October imposed a moratorium on fresh mining proposals after reports on rampant illegal mining in the area. At that time, the ministry said that the moratorium was being imposed with the objective of controlling illegalities in mining areas. However, with the state failing to take specific and timebound measures to check illegal mining, the moratorium continued to be in place. However during this time, projects proposals already under consideration were being taken up for clearances.
DEcision on NMDC’s Legacy Bid Today

STATE-OWNED NMDC, which has put in a bid to acquire 50 per cent holding in Australian exploration firm Legacy Iron Ore, is expecting to get a favourable decision by Wednesday.

“We are expecting an announcement by the Legacy board, recommending our offer to shareholders, on Wednesday,” an NMDC official said. Earlier, the Australian Securities Exchange ASX halted trading of Legacy’s shares till Wednesday, following a request from the company.